

GRAND JURY ACTS FIRST ON FIRE

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The



World.



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NEW YORK, MONDAY, MARCH 27, 1911.

16 PAGES

PRICE ONE CENT.

FACTS IN FACTORY HORROR DEMANDED FROM WHITMAN TO FIND INDICTMENTS



Scene at Bellevue Morque To-Day, Removing Dead Victims of Fire (Photographed especially for The Evening World by a Staff Photographer.)

REPUBLICANS MAY HELP BOLTERS ELECT A SENATOR

They Hold a Conference and Call on Insurgents to Make up List to Choose From—Murphy Stands Pat.

ALBANY, March 27.—The Republican Senators who were notified to be on hand at 11 o'clock today by Minority Leader Brackett to discuss the Senate total situation went into conference before the noonday ballot. Before the conference Senator Brackett said it was proposed to confer with the insurgent Democrats with a view to hearing what they have to propose in the matter of an independent candidate.

"If the insurgents are truly anxious to elect a senator independent of all Tammany influence," said Leader Brackett, "and will submit a few names of men of that character, I believe the time has come when the matter would be very earnestly considered by Republicans."

"I can see no harm," said Assemblyman Shortt, one of the insurgents, "in accepting aid from any source for the election of the right type of a man."

After the conference a statement was issued calling upon the insurgents to present the names of suitable candidates.

While the Republican Senators were in conference in the Senate Finance Committee room, Senator Roosevelt, the insurgent leader, arrived at the Capitol and talked briefly with Senator Brackett. The insurgent leader said later the insurgents would not go into tonight's Democratic conference. So far as the proposition of the Republicans was concerned, he said, his colleagues would wait until they made some formal offer.

Senators Wagner and Roosevelt had a conference after the Republican statement was issued. Then Senator Wagner hurried to a telephone and put in a long-distance call.

"Nothing important," was his answer to queries.

"I believe a United States Senator will be elected before the end of the week," said Senator Roosevelt.

The insurgents met this afternoon at Senator Roosevelt's house. The main question under discussion is the entering of the caucus to-night.

Opposes attending the caucus, says one of the Republicans has not yet been decided.

The fifty-fourth joint ballot for Senator, taken to-day, resulted as follows: Sheehan, 16; Littleton, 17; O'Brien, 2; Glynn, 2; Kernan, 1; Parker, 1; Carlisle, 1; Hopper, 1; Dewey, 1. Total vote cast, 33. No quorum.

Charles F. Murphy will stand pat in the Senatorial caucus at Albany tonight and William F. Sheehan will be re-elected, according to the programme agreed upon to-day. Murphy's plan is to induce the insurgents, who have announced that they will not go into the caucus, to join the Tammany line, and agree to withdraw his support from the men who have been placed upon the insurgent blacklist.

"I do not know what the caucus will do," said Murphy to-day. "We can always tell after it is over, but I am unalterably opposed to blacklists of all sorts."

When the caucus convenes to-night the names of at least a dozen candidates will be presented by organization legislators and the machine votes will be freely distributed among these "favorite sons." The idea is to give the appearance of a free and unbiased caucus, but the result will be the endorsement of Sheehan once more.

If the insurgents and fallers into the trap set for them and come into the caucus without announcing a blacklist it is certain that Daniel P. Cahalan would have been the choice of the caucus in place of William F. Sheehan.

AUTO AMBULANCE WITH 2 PATIENTS IN MOTOR CRASH

Chauffeur Injured and Car Wrecked by Collision in East New York.

An automobile ambulance, taking two patients to the Kings County Hospital, in charge of Dr. George Martin, was wrecked at Elton street and Glenwood avenue, Brooklyn, by a car driven by Edward Pule of No. 11 Jerome avenue, this afternoon.

Pule was thrown to the street and several of his ribs were broken and he was injured internally. He was taken to Bradford Street Hospital by Dr. Pomeroy.

Dr. Martin and the chauffeur of the ambulance, John Bailey, were severely shaken up, as were the two patients. The ambulance had been knocked to the sidewalk and into the plate glass window of a store. All four were taken to Kings County Hospital in another ambulance.

CANNED EGG CASE FAILS.

Judge Throws Out Government's Fight to Confiscate Ten Tons.

Judge Crockett in the United States District Court at Trenton, N. J., today rendered a verdict against the Government in a suit brought to confiscate ten tons of eggs that were seized at the plant of the Merchants Refrigerating Company in Jersey City. The eggs, it was alleged by the Government, were bad and their sale was a violation of the pure food law.

The eggs had been opened and put up in cans by the Seacoast Packing Company of Topsham, Kan., and were consigned to H. J. Keith & Co. of London. They were intended for sale principally to bakers.

OFFER 5 MILLION FOR ASSETS OF CARNEGIE TRUST

Proposal of Assets Realization Company Would Give Depositors 62 1/2 C. on Dollar.

The Assets Realization Company of No. 25 Broadway made a flat proposition today to Orion H. Chesney, State Superintendent of Banks, to buy all the assets of the Carnegie Trust Company for about \$5,000,000. The deposits to the Trust Company, which closed amounted to about \$8,000,000, so that the depositors, if the proposed purchase is allowed, will get about 62 1/2 per cent. on the dollar.

This action of the Assets Realization Company was exclusive of the fact that the Evening World a week ago. The company is a large capital and is enabled, it is said, to make show and advantageous use of securities when the State Trust Department would be obliged to sell at a sacrifice if it undertook the disposition.

Mr. Chesney returned today from the Council of the Federal Reserve Bank in New York. He was with Mr. Harfield of the New York City & Co. attorneys at the time of the seizure of the assets of the Carnegie Trust Company. He said the offer was a surprise to him and he had not yet decided whether to accept it.

It is understood by the Board of Directors of the Carnegie Trust Company that the transaction will be a success. The Carnegie Trust Company is a company of New York and New Jersey, with a capital of \$10,000,000. It was organized in 1904 and has since that time been a success.

KILLS HIMSELF WITH PISTOL NEAR GRAVE OF CHILD

Henry H. Otten, Real Estate Broker, a Suicide at Woodlawn Cemetery.

Henry H. Otten, who has been active in insurance and real estate business in Harlem and the Bronx, shot himself today in Woodlawn cemetery.

Mr. Otten had a child recently. The child was buried in the cemetery. For more than a week he has been making daily trips to the cemetery to visit the grave of his child. He was found by a police officer near the grave of his child.

Mr. Otten was a real estate broker and a suicide at Woodlawn cemetery.

TWO OF DUVEENS PAY \$10,000 EACH, PLEADING GUILTY

Other Brothers Still Out on Bail in \$5,000,000 Customs Fraud Case.

Louis Duveen and his brother, Joseph J. Duveen, of the firm Duveen Brothers, art importers, at No. 20 Fifth avenue, surrounded themselves before Judge Martin in the Criminal Division of the United States District Court this noon and pleaded guilty to defrauding the Government out of duties.

United States District Attorney Wills asked that the maximum fine be imposed on the two men and Judge Martin fixed them \$10,000 each. This is the maximum fine and both men paid.

Benjamin S. Duveen and Henry J. Duveen, also members of the firm, and jointly indicted, are at present out on bail.

In addition to Louis and Joseph J. Duveen, the two other members of the firm are Henry J. Duveen and Benjamin J. Duveen, who are indicted for frauds said to have involved a sum to the Government of about \$5,000,000 in customs duties. They are at present out on bail.

An indictment against the United States Interior, Attorney Wills requested before Commissioner of the Customs and Excise, and the United States District Attorney, to be placed on the list of the indicted.

After the hearing, Henry J. Duveen, who is at present out on bail, was ordered to be placed on the list of the indicted.

Inquisitors Volunteer to Sit Continuously for a Year if Necessary to Place Responsibility for 144 Deaths.

FIRE MARSHAL'S INQUIRY SHOWS LONG KNOWN PERIL

700 Frenzied Girls Jammed in Narrow Aisles Because of Locked Doors or Useless Stairways.

Having reached the conclusion this afternoon that the Building Department seemed to have been most derelict of any city department in its methods of inspecting the Washington place factory, in which Saturday's fire horror occurred, District-Attorney Whitman requested Judge O'Sullivan of General Sessions to have one of the March Grand Juries begin at once an inquiry and carry it over into April, if necessary.

Headed by Foreman William H. Hurst, all of the members of the additional Grand Jury later went before Judge O'Sullivan and presented a resolution to the court in which the members of the Grand Jury offered their services to the court for any time that might be deemed essential for hearing the evidence bearing upon the disaster.

District-Attorney Whitman thanked the members for the tender and told them that they would, in all probability, be asked to take charge of the investigation and would be held in service for that purpose.

The resolutions of the Grand Jury were kept secret. As soon as they had been read by the court, the foreman returned them to his pocket. It was learned that in the statement to the court the jurors said that if it was necessary they would devote all of their time for the rest of the month, or even for the rest of the year, to making a thorough probing of the case.

They added that the jurors realized that such disasters in New York had not been, in the past, properly punished and prosecuted and that they stood ready to make any sacrifice essential to handling the present case.

The District-Attorney declared that the Building Department would have to do most of the explaining to account for the strange methods of inspection that permitted certain faults in the construction of the Washington place factory building to continue to exist. There were specific responsibilities for the catastrophe, the District-Attorney thought, that the Building Department could not shift to the shoulders of any other department. The gravest defects, the construction of the doors and the condition of the fire escape, were up to the Building Department.

LAST INSPECTION IN FEBRUARY.

This conclusion was reached by Mr. Whitman after a thirty-six hour investigation. He learned that Inspector Herman of the Building Department made his last inspection of the factory in February. Inspector Herman has been summoned to the District-Attorney's office and requested to bring his last report. Commissioner of Labor Williams has also been asked to report to the District-Attorney's office.

Mr. Whitman has employed two construction engineers to go over the building and make an exhaustive report. Their report will be brought from the Board of Aldermen to-day. Assistant District-Attorneys Bostwick and Rubin have charge of the investigation for Mr. Whitman. Mr. Bostwick has been working on the case since Saturday night with Coroner Holzhauser.

Pitiable conditions of daily working life and miserably inadequate precautions to protect the lives of herded toilers were shown in the official investigation into the Asch Building fire that cost 144 lives on Saturday, started at 9:30 o'clock to-day at Fire Headquarters by Fire Marshal Beers. Behind the whole efforts of the fire officials to prevent such a calamity stood the blocking decision of the Court of Appeals that the department under its charter could not form a bureau to prevent loss of life and to force the building reforms that it once undertook to compel.

The investigation at Fire Headquarters was primarily intended to ascertain the cause of the fire. But the marshal did not stop there. He went into the exact conditions that existed, the panic, the fire escapes and the construction features. Fifteen witnesses were called before the investigation. Harris & Blank, the owners; Samuel Bernstein, superintendent of the factory; Edward Brown, the machinist; a boy who helped him, and others were on the list of witnesses.

The charter provides that the marshal's investigations must be secret, but Commissioner Waldo decided to throw this investigation open to the public, notwithstanding the provisions of the charter.

CIGARETTE OR MATCH STARTED FIRE.

And Marshal Beers, sincerely worked up over the great loss of life, pulled the curtain in advance from the scenes that were to be enacted dur-

FOR RACING RESULTS AND ENTRIES SEE PAGE 4.

World Building Turkish Baths